

October 28, 2019 Huntley UMC weekly bulletin

Dear friends,

I just returned from a wonderful trip to Egypt, the land of the Pharaohs. I have always wanted to see the Great Pyramid of Giza, the defining symbol of Egypt and the last of the ancient Seven Wonders of the World; the mysterious Sphinx, a mythological creature with a lion's body and a human head; the Valley of the Kings and the many tombs of the ancient Pharaohs; as well as all the ancient temples and other antiquities of the ancient Egyptian culture which is so intertwined with the historical beginnings of Jewish and Christian faith.

One of the things I was reminded of as I learned more about the ancient Egyptian practice of mummification was the great effort these ancient people made in preparing for the next life. The ancient Pharaohs took great pains and expended much effort to build elaborate tombs to house their bodies and all the things they thought they would need for their afterlife. Not only was their body prepared in a special way, but their tombs housed all the food and objects from this life that they thought would be necessary in the next life. One Pharaoh even took a chariot with him, just in case. A sweet ride is important to some people.

But all these detailed preparations by the Pharaohs were concerned with the physical nature of life, and the physical comforts they enjoyed here in this world. The Bible teaches us that there is more to this life than the physical, much, much more. There is a spiritual side to life that many people miss, and the spiritual side to life is ultimately more important than the physical. If we ignore the spiritual side of life, we will be as unprepared as those old pharaohs were of long ago when they left this life for the next.

I saw King Tut's mummy in his tomb there in the Valley of the Kings in Egypt. He's still there, although a little worse for wear. All of his objects that were buried with him to help him enjoy the next life are on display in various places around the world to remind us of what we consider important and beautiful and interesting things from this life. All of it is interesting to look at and contemplate, but it should remind us that we dare not ignore the spiritual side of life. That's what is truly important and of lasting significance. Ignore that and nothing else really matters. As the sacred song states so well, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you."

WCI Team will meet on Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Remember to turn your clocks back on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Next Sunday we will celebrate All Saints' Sunday, and remember all those who have died during the past year.

Huntley UMC Church Council will meet on Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Huntley UMC Charge Conference will meet on Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

There will be a flag retirement ceremony at Emmanuel Lutheran Church on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. Call Boots Mordeaux for further information at 545-7166.

See you in worship,  
Pastor Gary Geiman